

REMARKS

As a preliminary matter, the applicants would like to thank Examiner Nadav for holding a personal interview with the undersigned representative on 5 October 2006. During this interview, claim 1 and the applied references set forth in the Office Action dated 21 July 2006 were discussed. The foregoing claims have been amended in accordance with the Examiner's suggestion to overcome the outstanding rejection under Section 103. The applicants respectfully request that the present paper constitute the applicants' Interview Summary.

The status of the application, in light of the Office Action dated 21 July 2006, is as follows:

- (A) claims 1, 3, 4, 6, 8-11, 13-17, 24-37 and 42-95 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph; and
- (B) claims 1, 3, 4, 6, 8-11, 13-17, 24-37 and 42-95 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 over U.S. Patent No. 6,066,892 ("Ding") and U.S. Patent No. 5,677,244 ("Venkatraman").

A. Response to Section 112 Rejection

Claims 1, 3, 4, 6, 8-11, 13-17, 24-37 and 42-95 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, on the grounds that a lower temperature limit is not recited in claims 1, 6, 10, 11, 24, 30, 51, 57, 70 and 83. Claims 1, 6, 10, 11, 24, 30, 57, 70 and 83 have been amended to further define that the lower temperature is above an ambient temperature. Claim 51 already includes a lower temperature limit, and thus it is not amended in this paper. Therefore, the applicants respectfully request withdrawal of this rejection.

B. Response to Section 103 Rejection

Claims 1, 3, 4, 6, 8-11, 13-17, 24-37 and 45-95 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 over the combination of Ding and Venkatraman. As set forth in the Interview Summary signed by the Examiner, the foregoing amendments to claims 1, 6, 10, 11, 24, 30, 51, 57, 70 and 83 overcome the rejection of these claims over the combination of Ding and Venkatraman. Therefore, the applicants respectfully request withdrawal of this rejection.

In light of the foregoing, the pending claims comply with 35 U.S.C. § 112 and are patentable over the prior art of record. The applicants request reconsideration of the application and respectfully submit that the claims are a condition for allowance. If Examiner Nadav has any questions or believes a teleconference would expedite prosecution of the application, he is encouraged to contact the undersigned representative at (206) 359-3258.

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Respectfully submitted,

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